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24 May 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 24 MAY 1996 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF RWANDA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On behalf of the Government of Rwanda, I should like to draw to the attention of the members of the Security Council the fate of 3,000 Rwandan and Zairian families who are currently under siege by former Rwandan Government forces responsible for the massacre of more than one million Tutsis and moderate Hutus in Rwanda two years ago.

On 12 May, approximately 100 Tutsis living in Zaire were slaughtered in an attack on a Trappist monastery in Mokoto. Now the 3,000 families are surrounded in the villages of Kichonga and Myamitaba by military forces of the former Rwandan Government who fled to Zaire in 1994 and now operate there with impunity. More than 65,000 Kinyarwanda-speaking Zairian nationals and old case-load Rwandan refugees have fled their homes in Zaire's Massisi region since April to escape ethnic violence. The conflict in Massisi has displaced approximately 250,000 since late last year.

For this reason I am calling for an emergency meeting of the Security Council to take immediate action to prevent genocide in eastern Zaire.

(Signed) Manzi BAKURAMUTSA
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of
Rwanda to the United Nations

96-13054 (E) 240596 250596

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LETTER DATED 23 MAY 1996 FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit the attached communication, dated 22 May 1996, which I have received from the Secretary-General of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

I would appreciate your bringing it to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(Signed) Boutros BOUTROS-GHALI

96-13085 (E) 280596 290596

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Annex

Letter dated 22 May 1996 from the Secretary-General of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization addressed to the Secretary-General

In accordance with Security Council resolution 1031 (1995) of 15 December 1995, I attach the sixth report on the operations of the multinational implementation force (IFOR). I would appreciate your making the report available to the Security Council.

We have now entered a new phase of the IFOR mission, following the D+120 (18 April) time-line, and IFOR will continue to concentrate on the maintenance of a secure environment within which other organizations can take forward the civil aspects of the Peace Agreement (see S/1995/999). While I remain concerned that there are a number of outstanding compliance issues, we continue to see a willingness by all the parties to cooperate with IFOR and to implement the Peace Agreement's military annex.

I recently visited Banja Luka to see one of the IFOR multinational divisions. During the visit, I was able to meet with the local political leadership and express support for those who seek to implement the Peace Agreement and its vision of a single multi-ethnic country, two entities peacefully coexisting and elections that are free and fair. In addition, I visited Belgrade and pursued with President Milosevic the pressing importance of continued compliance by the parties with the provisions of the Peace Agreement, including those related to indicted war criminals. While IFOR will do its part on the ground, it is also essential that the international community do its part by applying maximum political pressure on the parties to ensure that they help to create the conditions for peace to endure.

I very much welcome the close cooperation between IFOR and the Office of the High Representative and the various United Nations agencies operating in theatre. Together they play a crucial part in the implementation of the Peace Agreement.

(Signed) Javier SOLANA

Appendix

Sixth report to the Security Council on the operations of the multinational implementation force

Operations of the multinational implementation force

1. The multinational implementation force (IFOR) comprises approximately 54,200 personnel deployed in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Croatia, from all the nations of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and from 16 non-NATO contributors. Offers from four additional non-NATO countries are pending. IFOR air assets continue to provide the capability required to secure the air space, defend and support IFOR ground forces, provide support to civilian agencies within mission capabilities and to monitor compliance. IFOR maritime assets also remain deployed in support of IFOR.

2. IFOR has now entered a new phase of Operation "Joint Endeavour" with the passing of the D+120 (18 April) time-line in the military annex to the Peace Agreement (see S/1995/999). In order to provide a secure and stable environment during which the civil aspects of the Peace Agreement will become increasingly important, IFOR retains its primary task of implementing the military aspects of the Peace Agreement by monitoring, and where necessary ensuring, compliance by the parties with their obligations under annex 1.A. During this period, IFOR forces have been concentrating on the demobilization and the cantonment of air defence systems, heavy weapons and forces from all the parties. It continues to maintain a secure environment by patrolling and surveillance in order to provide overall freedom of movement for IFOR, civilian agencies and non-governmental organizations, as well as the civilian population, including refugées and displaced persons, especially in predicted areas of potential civil disturbance. Ground and aerial surveillance of the Inter-Entity Boundary Line and the Zone of Separation has been maintained as has the continued destruction of bunkers and monitoring of demining operations. IFOR also continues to assist a range of civil organizations, on a case-by-case basis, from available resources without detriment to its primary mission.

3. IFOR maintains its robust capabilities and rules of engagement. These are essential for it to be able to defend itself effectively, display resolve in carrying out its mission and provide area security for others involved in implementing the Peace Agreement. Although some inter-entity tensions have been witnessed by IFOR personnel in recent weeks, the greatest risk to IFOR and others remains the very large number of mines that are scattered throughout Bosnia, including ones recently laid by the civilian population to protect their property. Unfortunately, incidents continue to cause casualties among IFOR personnel and local people.

4. As United Nations Transitional Administration for Eastern Slavonia, Baranja and Western Sirmium (UNTAES) forces prepare for operations in Eastern Slavonia, arrangements for the provision of close air support have been developed by UNTAES and IFOR.

Cooperation and compliance by the parties

5. IFOR will continue to execute its mission in an evenhanded manner. The process of withdrawal of forces and weapon systems to cantonment sites by all the parties, in accordance with annex 1.A to the Peace Agreement, still continues after D+120 (18 April), but this has been hampered by organizational shortcomings. The overall assessment is that:

- The cease-fire continues to hold and the parties remain generally in compliance with the cessation of hostilities;

- Although there has been an increase in the number of armed civilians being detained by IFOR in the Zone of Separation, and both bunker construction activity and the appearance of illegal check points continue, all parties have been generally in compliance with the Zone of Separation and the Inter-Entity Boundary Line. However, there have been a number of reported civil disturbances at crossing points, as displaced persons attempt to visit family, graves or previous homes. Some incidents have caused fatalities. On the other hand, many crossings of the Inter-Entity Boundary Line have taken place without incident and on many occasions tension has been defused effectively by the joint action of IFOR and the civilian agencies. IFOR, the Office of the High Representative, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the International Police Task Force have recently agreed on a common policy to reduce the risk of civil disturbances resulting from visits across the Inter-Entity Boundary Line, which threaten peace and public order. The risk, however, remains of further incidents of this kind over the coming weeks. In this regard the role of the local police remains essential;

- All parties continue to move heavy weapons and forces to agreed cantonment areas and to demobilize forces as was required at D+120 (18 April). It is assessed that the majority of declared heavy and air defence weapons are already in cantonments, but experience has shown that there are numerous discrepancies between declared and actual numbers of weapons, due either to deception or inefficiency in staffing and communications. The discovery of undeclared air defence weapons will result in their confiscation or destruction by IFOR, as it carries out its verification mission. IFOR is continuing to monitor the movement of heavy weapons to approved cantonment sites. Undeclared heavy weapons, discovered by IFOR, or those stored in cantonment sites not approved by IFOR, are being moved to approved sites;

- The situation regarding the true scale of demobilization of forces suggests that none of the parties are in full compliance with the D+120 (18 April) requirements. While there is continued evidence of demobilization proceeding, this has been limited by the need to approve cantonments and the parties' organizational and logistic capabilities. The lack of suitable alternative employment for demobilized personnel remains a resultant concern;

- There has been a substantial reduction in the presence of foreign forces in Bosnia and Herzegovina. We believe that there are still isolated individuals physically present in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and IFOR continues to monitor the situation;

- There has been some further release of prisoners during the period of this report. However, the International Committee of the Red Cross has confirmed that all the parties continue to hold a number of prisoners. Dossiers for only a few have been provided to the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991, for possible investigation as war criminals.

6. The Joint Military Commission and its supporting structure of military commissions are operating efficiently. The Inter-Entity Boundary Line Subcommittee met on 8 May and made some progress in adjusting the Inter-Entity Boundary Line, for which revised mapping will be produced. However, disagreements remain in the Posavina, Dobrinja, South Herzegovina and Jajce areas.

7. On 19 April, the North Atlantic Council, following a meeting with the non-NATO IFOR contributors, issued a declaration urging all the parties to honour their commitments, under the Peace Agreement and to cooperate fully with IFOR.

Cooperation with the High Representative and international organizations

8. The civil aspects of the Peace Agreement remain crucial to its success and IFOR will continue to build on the good cooperation that has so far been established with the High Representative's Office and the many and various civilian agencies. It continues to provide as much support to these civilian agencies as its principal tasks and available resources allow.

9. Currently, IFOR is involved in over 300 civil projects, including road, rail and bridge repair and construction and the rebuilding of schools, hospitals and public utilities. It is actively working with UNHCR in its planning for the repatriation of refugees and displaced persons; with the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) in the fields of arms control, confidence-building measures and the provision of appropriate support for the elections and with the International Police Task Force in its task of rebuilding law and order. IFOR continues to provide security and logistic support to the International Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia, as well as aerial surveillance of mass grave sites to which the Tribunal has given priority status.

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LETTER DATED 24 MAY 1996 FROM THE CHARGÉ D'AFFAIRES A.I.
OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF ETHIOPIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter jointly addressed by H.E. Mr. Meles Zenawi, Prime Minister of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia and current Chairman of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and H.E. Mr. Salim Ahmed Salim, Secretary-General of OAU, on the question of Western Sahara.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Fesseha A. TESSEMA
Chargé d'affaires

96-13073 (E) 240596 250596

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Annex

Letter dated 23 May 1996 from the Prime Minister of Ethiopia and the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity addressed to the President of the Security Council

We have been following closely developments regarding the question of Western Sahara.

As you are aware, the Organization of African Unity (OAU) has always been keen to see that an atmosphere of peace, security and understanding is restored in the region and has shown its disposition to cooperate fully with the United Nations in the faithful implementation of the settlement plan for Western Sahara. It is in that context that OAU deployed a group of official observers to follow the process of identification of voters. OAU has consistently stressed the importance it attaches to a peaceful and lasting solution to this question through the organization of a free, fair and impartial referendum for the people of Western Sahara in conformity with the settlement plan.

We are aware of the tremendous efforts deployed by the Secretary-General of the United Nations aimed at implementing the settlement plan. We are equally conscious of the involvement and the total engagement of the Security Council in the attainment of that objective. We are also aware of the many obstacles and difficulties that have been faced in the process. To this end, OAU has always encouraged the United Nations Secretary-General and the United Nations Security Council to persevere in their efforts to secure the understanding and cooperation of both Morocco and the Frente Popular para la Liberación de Saguia el-Hamra y de Río de Oro (Frente POLISARIO) towards the implementation of the settlement plan.

We are deeply concerned at the present impasse in the implementation of the settlement plan as a result of difficulties encountered in the identification process of the voters.

As the Security Council is having consultations on this issue based on the recent report of the Secretary-General (S/1996/343 and Corr.1), we deemed it necessary to bring to your attention and through you to the members of your Council our common concerns.

We are concerned that any relaxation of efforts of the United Nations in the implementation of the settlement plan could further complicate the current impasse. Notwithstanding the obstacles thus far encountered, we believe that it is important for the United Nations to remain actively involved in pursuit of the settlement of the conflict. We further strongly believe that the United Nations should continue to pursue its efforts aimed at implementing the settlement plan for Western Sahara with renewed commitment and dynamism. In this respect, we are of the view that further efforts should be vigorously deployed for the speedy resumption of the identification process. In this regard, given the nature of the situation, we feel that it is important to do everything possible with a view to encouraging direct dialogue between the two

parties so as to promote confidence and trust and thus create the most propitious conditions to address the pending problems.

It is our earnest hope that the United Nations Security Council will ensure that nothing will be done that could jeopardize the implementation process of the settlement plan for Western Sahara with far-reaching implications for peace, stability and security in the region.

We would like to reiterate our fervent hope that in addition to ensuring that the present cease-fire continues to be respected by both parties, efforts will be deployed to create the necessary conditions for an early resumption of the identification process in conditions of transparency and in conformity with the provisions of the settlement plan for Western Sahara.

Finally, on behalf of OAU, we would like to reaffirm our commitment to support the United Nations efforts and to work closely together towards the implementation of the settlement plan for Western Sahara. We believe that it is in the best interest of both parties as well as in the interest of the region and the continent as a whole.

(Signed) Meles ZENAWI
Prime Minister of the Federal
Democratic Republic of Ethiopia
and current Chairman of OAU

(Signed) Salim Ahmed SALIM
Secretary-General of OAU

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LETTER DATED 17 MAY 1996 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF GHANA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instruction from my Government, I have the honour to attach hereto as an annex the contents of a statement which the Government of Ghana issued to the diplomatic corps accredited to Ghana on 9 May 1996 bearing on the Liberian situation.

I should be grateful if you would have the contents circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Jack B. WILMOT
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

96-13091 (E) 240596 250596

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Annex

Statement issued by the Government of Ghana on the ministerial meeting of the members of the Economic Community of West African States Committee of Nine on Liberia, held at Accra, on 7 and 8 May 1996

1. Two meetings were scheduled at Accra for the members of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) Committee of Nine on Liberia: the ministerial meeting and the summit meeting. Members of the Committee of Nine are Ghana, Nigeria, Togo, Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, the Gambia, Guinea and Senegal. Sierra Leone, Mali, Liberia and Niger were invited as observers. There was full attendance at the ministerial meeting and very far-reaching decisions were taken. The summit meeting could not come off since none of the heads of State of the Committee of Nine turned up.

2. Discussions centred on the breached Abuja Agreement and on the determination of the appropriate mechanism that would put the Liberian peace process back on track. The main objective of the meeting was to stop the current mayhem in Monrovia and restore that city to its safe haven status. Other issues were the strengthening of the ECOWAS Monitoring Group (ECOMOG) to make it a deterrent force that could implement the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of the ex-combatants into Liberian civil society. The state of the relationship between ECOMOG and the Liberian National Transitional Government, most particularly with the Council of State, was discussed at length. The status of forces agreement, the General Roosevelt Johnson affair, funding and supply of equipment and material by the international community to ECOMOG, the internal dynamics of ECOMOG itself and the possible pull-out of ECOMOG from Liberia were other issues that were similarly discussed.

3. On the question of the possible pull-out of ECOMOG from Liberia, the meeting took its cue from the ECOMOG Field Commander, who categorically stated that either ECOMOG should be given the strength and the wherewithal to carry out its mandate to the letter or ECOMOG should be withdrawn. There was a strong debate on this subject as to whether an appropriate presentation should be made to the summit meeting. It was agreed by all the participants, however, that every State member of ECOMOG had the sovereign right to pull its troops out of ECOMOG at any time.

4. The meeting finally agreed on the following mechanism which could test the sincerity of the Liberia warring factions in bringing back permanent and durable peace to their country:

(a) Monrovia

(i) The strict observance by the armed fighters of all parties of the cease-fire demanded by the Chairman of ECOWAS throughout Liberia;

(ii) The immediate withdrawal of armed fighters from Monrovia simultaneously with the completion of the deployment of ECOMOG throughout the city;

(iii) The removal of all arms and ammunition from Monrovia to be verified by ECOMOG and the United Nations Observer Mission in Liberia (UNOMIL), and the reinstatement of Monrovia to the status of a safe haven;

(iv) The return of looted properties to their rightful owners and ensuring the freedom of all citizens from arbitrary arrest and abduction by armed elements;

(v) The return of all arms seized from ECOMOG troops during the attack on them at Tubmanburg, Bomi County, in December 1995;

(vi) The return of vehicles and equipment seized or looted from UNOMIL, United Nations and other humanitarian agencies in Liberia;

(vii) The employment of the Cease-fire Violations Monitoring Committee to oversee the observance of the cease-fire;

(b) The Johnson issue

(i) Re-establishment of the authority and cohesiveness of the Council of State of Liberia in particular and the Liberian National Transitional Government in general as outlined in the Abuja Agreement and the other agreements preceding it;

(ii) Ensuring reconciliation in and inclusiveness of Government throughout the transitional period;

(iii) Respect and equal treatment of all ethnic groups in Liberia;

(iv) Issue of an appropriate statement by General Roosevelt Johnson indicating his satisfaction with and preparedness to work along the lines of the present mechanism for peace and stability in Liberia;

(v) The provision of safe conduct out of the Barclay Training Centre of armed elements of the United Liberation Movement of Liberia for Democracy (ULIMO-J) and the Liberian Peace Council to agreed areas outside Monrovia and the immediate disarming of armed soldiers of the Armed Forces of Liberia (AFL) at the Barclay Training Centre;

(c) Disarmament, demobilization and reintegration

(i) Revitalization of plans for disarmament, demobilization and reintegration;

(ii) Immediate implementation of proportional disarmament among the various factions to correspond with the number of troops disarmed at the Barclay Training Centre;

(iii) Verifiable disarmament by all factions along with the creation of national armed forces with contribution of personnel from all factions;

(iv) Training of trainers of AFL;

(v) Implementation of plans for reintegrating former armed fighters into Liberian society;

(d) Democratization

(i) Creation of the necessary atmosphere for the restoration of democracy in the country by ensuring the reopening of newspapers and radio stations;

(ii) Necessary constitutional changes to allow for proportional representation in the formation of national government;

(iii) Arrangements for the early return to their homes or counties of refugees and internally displaced persons;

(iv) Resumption of political campaigns throughout the country in preparation for elections;

(v) Ensuring of necessary institutional preparations for the holding and monitoring of free and fair elections throughout Liberia.

5. The Ministers reiterated that the mechanism outlined above for implementation by the Government and people of Liberia would be closely monitored by the ECOWAS Committee of Nine on Liberia to assess the commitment of Liberians to the peace process and also to determine at the next ECOWAS summit meeting in late July and early August 1996 the continuation or otherwise of the involvement of ECOWAS in the Liberian peace process.

6. On the issue of the "collective presidency" vis-à-vis the Abuja concept of the executive, the Ministers expressed the view that the collective presidency concept was external to the Abuja Agreement.

7. Concerning the nature of political cooperation between ECOMOG and the Council of State, the Ministers decided to defer to the next summit of ECOWAS, the decision to direct the Executive Secretary of ECOWAS to sign the revised draft of the agreement relating to the status of ECOMOG in Liberia between ECOWAS and the Republic of Liberia as initialled. They stressed that the cooperation between ECOMOG and the Council of State of the Republic of Liberia under the status of forces agreement was symbiotic in nature and that under no circumstances should the agreement be interpreted to mean that the operations of ECOMOG, the Special Representative, the Field Commander or any member of ECOMOG should be under the control of the Government of Liberia.

8. The Ministers critically considered the events that triggered the recent crisis in Monrovia and concluded that they revolved around General Roosevelt D. Johnson. They welcomed the decision by Ghana and Nigeria to provide temporary residence to General Johnson in order to lessen the tension in Monrovia. In the spirit of reconciliation they appealed to the Council of State to grant General Johnson amnesty from arrest and prosecution. They also recommended that General Johnson should be reinstated to his former position and

strongly urged General Johnson to respect the authority of the Council of State under the Abuja Agreement.

9. The Ministers recognized that, as presently constituted, ECOMOG could not adequately discharge the political and military duties it was called upon to play in the continued search for peace in Liberia. Therefore they welcomed the current efforts being made by the international community, especially through the International Contact Group on Liberia (ICGL) to explore ways of lending diplomatic, political, military and other forms of support and assistance to ECOMOG. They also called for all international pledges made at the 1995 United Nations Conference Liberia in New York to be redeemed. They expressed appreciation to the Government of the United States of America for the offer of US$ 30 million to ECOMOG to make it operationally effective and to the Governments of Belgium and Denmark for their offers of sponsorship aimed at expanding ECOMOG and appealed to all African and other States to make appropriate contributions towards the search for peace in Liberia.

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LETTER DATED 22 MAY 1996 FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ANGOLA

I am writing on behalf of the members of the Security Council about the present situation in Angola. The members of the Council were pleased to learn of progress towards the implementation of the Lusaka Protocol, including the passage of the amnesty law, the progress made in quartering the rapid reaction police and the return to barracks of the Angolan armed forces. However, they wish to express their concern at the slow pace of the peace process and the fact that some of the troop movements appear to be only tactical redeployments.

The members of the Security Council are also concerned that the military talks on the modalities for the integration of troops of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) into the Angolan armed forces were not concluded on 15 May 1996 in accordance with the timetable agreed by all parties on the Joint Commission earlier this month. They understand that progress has been achieved in talks between the senior military leaders of the Government and UNITA in recent days. They urge you to resolve the remaining military issues quickly. The members of the Council are concerned that the preparations by the Government of Angola for receiving UNITA troops into the Angolan armed forces might not be sufficiently advanced to complete integration of the armed forces by June 1996, as agreed in Libreville. They urge you to take all necessary steps to ensure that your delegates successfully conclude the military talks immediately and without further delay.

Finally, the members of the Council hope to see progress soon on forming a Government of unity and national reconciliation as well as on plans to disarm the civilian population, and urge you to make every effort in this context.

(Signed) QIN Huasun
President of the Security Council

96-13253 (E) 280596 290596

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LETTER DATED 22 MAY 1996 FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL UNION FOR THE TOTAL INDEPENDENCE OF ANGOLA

I am writing on behalf of the members of the Security Council to express their concern at the slow pace of the peace process. They have been informed that quartering of troops of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) virtually stopped after the renewal of the mandate of the United Nations Angola Verification Mission (UNAVEM III) on 8 May 1996 and has only resumed in the past two days. This means that about half of the declared number of UNITA troops are yet to be quartered nine months before the expected completion of the mission of UNAVEM III, as envisaged in paragraph 10 of resolution 976 (1995). The members of the Council expect the process of rapid quartering to resume immediately and to continue without interruption until completed by June 1996, in accordance with resolution 1055 (1996).

The members of the Council need evidence of the parties' steady and unswerving commitment to the peace process. The Council's acknowledgement in resolution 1055 (1996) of UNITA's efforts does not seem to have encouraged the sustained movement of UNITA troops to the quartering areas. The members of the Council urge you to fulfil your recent unilateral commitment to quarter 50,000 troops at the latest by 15 June 1996 and to increase significantly the number of workable weapons and other military equipment turned over by UNITA troops to UNAVEM III.

The members of the Security Council are also concerned that the military talks on the modalities for the integration of UNITA troops into the Angolan armed forces were not concluded on 15 May 1996 in accordance with the timetable agreed by all parties on the Joint Commission earlier this month. They understand that progress has been achieved in talks between the senior military leaders of the Government and UNITA in recent days. They urge you to resolve the remaining military issues quickly. You and President dos Santos agreed that the integration of UNITA troops into the Angolan armed forces and the demobilization of those troops not inducted into the unified armed forces would be completed by June 1996. The members of the Council urge you to take all necessary steps to ensure that your delegates successfully conclude the military talks immediately so that this important aspect of the peace process may proceed without further delay.

Finally, the members of the Council also hope to see progress soon on forming a Government of unity and national reconciliation and encourage you to make every effort in this regard.

(Signed) QIN Huasun
President of the Security Council